

Fire Prevention Week

Canadian property worth \$20,000,000 destroyed

Nearly \$20,000,000 worth of Canadian property was destroyed in major fires last year, according to a report just issued by the National Fire Protection Association.

The total showed a marked decrease from the previous year's report when large fires caused more than individual losses of a quarter million dollars or more—total in excess of \$11,000,000.

There were 23 fires of this size in Canada during 1955, 30 of them involving buildings, four in forests and one an aircraft.

Destruction by fire of all sizes in Canada during the same 12-month period came to approximately \$100,000,000, other statistics of the National Fire Protection Association indicate.

The international non-profit fire safety organization's Fire Protection Department annually makes a detailed study of both Canadian and U.S. large loss fires.

Comparable figures for the United States in 1955 were 221 major fires causing a total loss of almost \$27,000,000. This also represented a substantial reduction from a previous year's figure of almost \$119,000,000.

The dollar loss figures point out the National Fire Protection Association, do not take into account the tremendous indirect cost of fire waste which cannot be measured in money.

Insurance made the greatest stride in reducing losses from major fires. The number of industrial plants involved dropped from 21 to three, with a reduction of \$1,000,000.

Tisdale fire loss at \$3,000

Tisdale, July 23, 1955.—A 24-year-old service station employee suffered burns to his hands, arms and hair early Wednesday morning while attempting to quit a blaze that broke out in the Joliffe Service Station at Tisdale.

Insurance records show a \$3,000 damage to the garage and an adjoining case operated by Bill Crook.

Norman Wilson, fire chief, said the fire was possibly caused by an accumulation of gas fumes which ignited when a water pump driven by an electric motor, was turned on.

A short-circuit in an electrical extension, a part of which was hanging on the wall of the race room, is blamed as cause of the fire.

The blaze at the wire was extinguished but it was feared flames had crept to the attic of the building.

Most seriously damaged was the service bay of the garage. Extensive water and smoke damage was done to living quarters and a lot of mauling store and cafe.

Firemen were hampered for a short time by the lack of a nearby water source.

Fire combination: one small child and one match.

(The Daily Sun, Brandon, Man.)



SOURIS FIRE—Sparks from a burning waste pile are believed responsible for the sudden blaze that razed the Souris Creamery. Picture shows the smoldering building at the height of the fire. A breakfast bent over the main boiler and air outside wall were killed at that were left of the creamery two hours after the fire began.

—Brandon Sun photo by G. Houston.

Souris dairy burns

Souris. — Flamed by a strong southerly wind, flames raced unchecked through the sprawling Souris Creamery building Friday afternoon, leaving behind a 70 by 100 foot area of destruction and a loss estimated unofficially at a minimum of \$60,000.

Volunteer fire departments from Souris and Martigny joined forces in fighting the flames. They succeeded in stopping the spread of the flames to houses directly across the street or to the egg station, refrigeration building and office building of the creamery.

Although nearly a full staff was on duty when the fire started, no one was injured in the blaze.

The fire which was spotted at about 5 p.m., reportedly started when sparks from a pile of waste being burned immediately south of the building entered the sawdust and wood shavings insulation of the building through a ventilation space.

Pine crews fought the raging inferno for more than two hours before it was completely under control, pumping water for six hours from the creek about a block north of the creamery.

The fire was checked at the east side of the building, with the milk room the only portion of the 200 by 70 building saved. That of that era the egg and refrigeration building and the office building.

The creamery, which supplies milk and other products to many southwestern Manitoba centres as well as communities in eastern Saskatchewan, is owned by C. W. Padlock.

FRENCH FIRES

A woman is about to make "French fries" she tossed the potato slices still wet from the cooking pot, into the pan of 300 degrees grease. Water and grease being a strong mixture for each other, the water made the grease become like a sticky foam, eating her flammable fabric dress alive.

Electrical cords and motors

WE ARE LIVING in an electrical age — the use of electricity has quadrupled in the last 50 years but the capacity of our wiring has not kept pace with this rapid increase in electricity consumption. One can thus save electricity consumption. One can thus save electricity consumption. One can thus save electricity consumption.

A certain size wire will SAFELY carry just so much electricity. If you use too much, you will overheat your wiring by placing a fuse or a circuit breaker in the line. If too much current is demanded from a circuit, the fuse will blow or the breaker will open, thus stopping the flow of current. This is an indication the circuit is overloaded, a situation which must be corrected if we want to remove electrical hazards.

Most homes are wired with No. 14-gauge wire—it will safely carry 15-ampere current without overheating. In late years, the use of No. 12-gauge wire has been increasing — it will handle 20-ampere safely. Purses in a home must always be of the 12-amp size unless it is definitely known that the No. 12 wire has been used.

Electrical interruptions may be due to short circuits, ground or overloads. When two wires touch the conductors, an arc occurs, a ground exists. When too many electrical appliances are connected to one circuit, the circuit will try to make the circuit carry more than it was designed to carry. The wires will become too hot and will cause the wires to overheat. This is a danger of a higher rating such as 30-ampere or 40-ampere. If you are now asking that No. 14-gauge wire to carry more than 15-ampere, the wires will start to overheat. In time, this will harden the rubber insulation on the wires, vibration will cause it to crack, a short circuit or a ground will occur — a fire starts. To use a 30-amp fuse like this is the same as holding down the safety valve on a steam boiler—your house has an explosion inevitable.

When a fuse "blows," remove some of the appliances that were operating at that time, insert a new fuse and see if it can handle the job. If it "blows" a second time, you have a short or a ground call a competent electrician to come in and fix it. At that time he can show you how many (and no more) appliances you can safely connect to that circuit.

\$100,000 CTC explosion, loose gasoline blamed

A gasoline explosion and fire at the rear which gutted the Canadian Tire of the building. Corporation store on Ragan street last Wednesday night and caused an estimated \$100,000 damage, was caused by loose gasoline which came into contact with a hot steam pipe.

The disclosure was made by Inspector Ray Simmons of the Ontario Fire Marshall's Office following an investigation last week.

It was revealed by the investigation that the pipe line leading from the 10,000 gallon supply tank at the rear of the building to the 500 gallon tanks at the front, was not connected with the front when the pump had been inadvertently turned on.

The gasoline seeped down from the building and along gasoline pipe lines in the basement to where they crossed over the street. It was here the explosion took place which touched off the flash fire.

The blaze destroyed the interior of the one-story building, opened by George C. Herremann, and shattered doors and windows and tore



SPARK SAYS BE CAREFUL WITH OIL STOVES!

Oil stoves can be dangerous if not used correctly. They should always be kept open. Don't wait have them fixed immediately if they are not working properly. Make sure the stove is turned on and off according to the directions. Also follow the instructions when refilling with clean oil or kerosene. If you gamble with fire—the odds are against you!



DON'T GIVE FIRE A PLACE TO START!

(The Advertiser, Redford, Ont.)



BLECHING BLACK SMOKE pours from the Canadian Tire Corporation store fire which kept the town's entire permanent and voluntary brigade busy for two hours last Wednesday night.

Just after these pictures were taken, flames engulfed the front of the store, scattering onlookers away from the burning building.

Canadian property worth \$20,000,000 destroyed

Industry made the greatest stride in reducing losses from major fires. The number of industrial plants involved dropped from 11 to three, with a reduction of

Sure fire combination: one small child and one match.

Structural weaknesses including missing division walls, unenclosed

Y SAYS

Souris da

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boiling pot, into the pan of 350 degrees grease. Water and grease having a strong dislike for each other, the water made the grease bubble into the stove flame, and

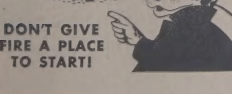
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**DON'T GIVE
FIRE A PLACE**

**TAKE A PLACE
TO START!**



Fire prevention

Home fire extinguishers

LET'S ASSURE your home is on fire — the family is safely outside — the fire department has been called — WHAT CAN YOU DO UNTIL THE FIRE DEPARTMENT ARRIVES? If you had a good fire extinguisher or two, you might do a lot of good. Fire is easiest handled when they're small.

Home fires generally involve only ordinary combustibles — they're called Class A. Fire Water is the best Class A extinguisher fluid. Any fire extinguisher bearing an Underwriters label and an "A" classification is suitable for a home. This might be a 2½-gal. pump tank or a soda-acid type. The water inside the extinguisher may be expelled by a hand pump. By a mixing of two chemicals, by breaking open a carbon-dioxide cartridge. But be sure you purchase ONLY an Underwriters' approved and labeled unit.

Your garden hose on its outside faucet is a good fire extinguisher. Keep 50 feet of garden hose connected there during the winter months. You could even extend this water line to a second floor closet and coil 25 or 30 feet of light plastic hose up there.

Pump tank extinguishers are the least expensive and the easiest to maintain. They are like the spraying tanks you use to spray your garden. Be sure you know all they need to be kept filled with water, plus a drop of oil on the plunger occasionally. They are very effective.

Grease fires in the kitchen or oil fires in the garage are Class B. They are put out by extinguishers. These could be 2½-gal. foam units, carbon dioxide or dry chemical. They must have at least 4 capacity. They also should bear an Underwriters' label. The foam type is the best. It is probably the best since it leaves no much up after it is used. It also can be used on food (dew fat frying, for example) and on the fuel for home consumption appliances.

Water type extinguishers should NEVER be used on oil or grease fires in the kitchen. The heat of the burning grease turns the water to steam and then burning grease all over the kitchen and YOU.

In fighting a fire, always make sure your path of retreat to the outside of the home is kept clear — go to the fire spread and trap you so you can't get out of the house. In case of doubt, get outside and let the fire department handle the job.

Electrical circuits

ALL ELECTRICAL DEVICES are connected to house circuits by flexible extension cords. By their very nature they are subject to mis-treatment and hard usage. People walk on them, children play with them, dogs even bite them. Installation of electrical cords must be as safe as walrus hide.

When cords become frayed at any place, they should be replaced unless the frayed portion is at one end where it can be cut off and the cord reconnected to the appliance. If the house circuit doesn't have the look and the "know-how" to do this correctly, a competent electrician should do the job. If these frayed details are not corrected, wires may soon touch each other, sparks or an arc will occur, and nearby flammable material may ignite. It doesn't pay to fool with electricity.

MORE FIRES START FROM ELECTRICAL MISTAKE THAN FROM ANY OTHER KNOWN CAUSE!

Cords should not be placed under rugs or carpeting. They should not be placed over heat radiators or any other heat source. They should not be hung on nails or over pipes. They should be kept away from children. They should allow five or six extension cords to be plugged into one central outlet. They should be used in dry places and not in the wet. They should be unplugged and have an electrician wire it a few more wall outlets than it is to overload one and have a fire.

Electric motors do work for us. They're very efficient but they are not maintained properly. They will have a fire if they are anything that rotates, they need oiling periodically. The ends of motors are not oiled. They should be oiled and kept clean. If these motors get plugged in and left to run, they will get hot and set the dust or lint on fire. Several times a year a good vacuum cleaner to clean out and fuzz from refrigerators, vacuum cleaners, hair dryers and shop tool motors.

Sometimes when a motor is started, the lights dim a bit momentarily. This is a sure sign that the electric circuit is overloaded. This usually happens when the device uses large motors such as are on the furnace or a home workshop device. The dimming lights are a signal that the motors had better be shifted over to a separate circuit not close on a main loading. A clean, well-oiled motor seldom causes trouble.

A 120-volt house circuit, fused at 15-amps, will handle safely 1800-watts of power devices. You can add up the wattage figure on lamps, motors and other electrical devices on any one circuit — if they add to more than 1800 watts that circuit is overloaded.

(The Fire Lane, Balcarres, Sask.)



SMOKELINGING RUINS are all that is left of the main part of Abernethy's business district after a fire, believed to have been started by exploding propane gas, raced through seven frame buildings. Damage was estimated at \$300,000.



AFTERMATH—Broken cement, charred timbers and smoking debris is the scene after about an 180,000 fire which early Friday wiped out seven buildings on Abernethy's Main street. Photo shows one remaining wall of a pool room where the remaining blaze was brought to bay before lighting the locker plant behind it.

Protect children from fires

During 1967, more than half of Saskatchewan fire victims were children. Fire Commissioner W. J. Carson said, "what can we do to protect children from fire?"

1. Never leave children at home alone. They are helpless to escape fire themselves often start fires when left unattended.

2. By the same token when children play near bonfires and camp fires and lighters far out of reach of youngsters.

3. In the home keep small children away from stoves and furnaces where their clothing may catch fire. When outdoors beware of letting them play near bonfires and camp fires for the same reason.

4. For your child's sake be sure party costumes and decorations are flame proof. Give them a flashlight or electric candles but never give them lighted candles at Halloween and on other occasions.

5. Teach children what to do if children catch fire. Tell them not to run but to lie down at once and roll over slowly to smother the flames, preferably in a rug, blanket or bed.

6. When a babysitter is a must, make sure they are qualified and able to take care of small children. Before leaving the house, inform them of your whereabouts and how to contact the fire department.

7. If they are to have to tend the means of exit and how to tend the

800 MORE TURKEYS PERISH

Yukon, Alaska—Again fire has ripped out turkey poulters, again with a defective brooder burner blamed for the cause. Some 800 seven-week-old turkey poulters perished of suffocation about 1 p.m. Wednesday on the farm of John Detamore of the Yukon Delta, 18 miles southeast of Whitehorse.

Unlabeled propane tanks to extinguish the fire of the owner of the farm and blazer brooder house and his family managed to save the building from being gutted but they were unable to save the young poulters, loss being estimated at \$2,200, but partly covered by insurance, according to report received.

Several fires, the ones that destroyed some 6,000 poulters at the Parkland Hatchery farm, have resulted in loss of thousands and all apparently caused by faulty heating units.—The Enterprise.

are properly. In case of fire, getting the children out of the home is the first thing they should do, then they should seek help.

T. Practice fire safety every day in the home. By doing an exercise are taught how to avoid giving fire a place to start.

"These simple rules should be practiced" said the Fire Prevention Week but, Carson said.

Abernethy fire wipes out half of main street

Fire which broke out on Abernethy's main street early Friday morning destroyed half the village's business section and left a wake a damage bill estimated at \$300,000.

Seven buildings were leveled, including the only general store in the village. The fire also killed eight persons were left homeless as the fire, fed by propane gas, raced through seven frame buildings.

The heat was so intense that windows were cracked and paint blistered badly on buildings across the street.

20 one was injured. The fire broke out in Jack's bill and gas station about 1 a.m. It was first noticed by Mrs. A. Bell, living in quarters above the Moore and Bell General store next door.

Attributed by the sound of a dull explosion, Mrs. Bell looked out of her window and saw flames shooting out of the front of the building next door. She called her husband and children and all left the building in great haste. She was the only one left in the building when the fire broke out.

An elderly couple, Mr. and Mrs. Moore, who resided in a downtown suite in a frame building were awoken also.

It was Archie Bell, clad only in his pyjamas over which he had pulled a pair of pants, who sounded the fire alarm. But within a matter of minutes the fire was too well advanced for Abernethy's volunteer fire brigade, with a military pumping unit, to do more than try to save nearby buildings.

Summoned by telephone operator Louis Stathachewitz in his office across the street, fire brigades from Balcarres, Lemberg and Neudorf were soon on the way.

By the time the Balcarres brigade arrived, South of the fire on the second cause burning away.

At 1:30 a.m., because of falling rain, the power was cut off from all main street premises.

Before 2 a.m. the store was gutted, and the pool room, too, was well ablaze and combined brigades were playing hoses on the cold storage plant next door.

By 2 a.m. the fire was under control and a few hours later the morning light revealed nothing but a smouldering ruin where the main part of Abernethy's business stood the day before.

Destroyed was Henry Jack's \$14,000 oil and implement agency, an empty building next door which was being converted into a cafe by Mr. and Mrs. W. Jackson, valued at \$1,000, the 10,000 office of John and Loree, notary public and insurance agent, a cafe operated by

Mr. and Mrs. Jackson and owned by Paul Lee of Regina, valued at \$5,000, and a \$2,000 home, both owned by Mrs. Jackson.

Biggest loss was the Moore and Bell general store and hardware, valued at \$20,000. Frame structures which included stock, was valued at \$50,000.

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Trapper's cabin tragedy

Carroll River, Dec. 6, 1968—A three-year-old boy, killed by a gun, another members of his family were injured. The boy was killed by a gun, another members of his family were injured.

Dead in Terrace Whitecap, son of Indian Trapper Martin Whitecap, of Red Deer Indian Reserve.

In hospital at Carroll River, suffering burned hands and feet are his father, his mother, 60, who was burned on the legs and thighs, his brother, Raymond, burned on the hands and face, and his grandfather, Louis Young, who suffered burns to his neck, face and back.

All are in serious condition. A Carroll River Airways plane brought them to hospital after RCMP investigated a report of the fire which occurred 14 miles from the reserve.

According to police Mr. Whitecap said "we live with him, he is not in the house, he is sleeping overnight in a sack he had attempted to burn a morning fire with kerosene. It caused an explosion and showered his family with the flaming fluid."

TIDY HOUSEKEEPING—Common thought of a householder, viewing the ruins of a neighbor's house: "I wonder if I have sufficient insurance on my house." Good thinking it is, too, but don't forget that tidy housekeeping is an excellent basis to fire insurance.

GUARD AGAINST FIRE

"Sparky" says:



Smoking a bad habit!

Replace your frayed electric cord!

Keep toddlers away from children



Be careful with lit match



Use non-flammable clothing fluid



Be careful around

Is your turn next?



Be careful with lit match



Use non-flammable clothing fluid



Be careful around

HEATING SYSTEMS REQUIRE CHECK

THE CREDIT UNION WAY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15th
IS CREDIT UNION DAY

